



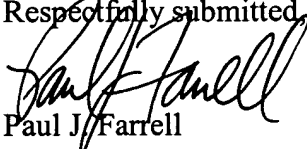
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. It is gratefully acknowledged that Claims 1-11 and 14-20 have now been allowed. It is also gratefully acknowledged that Claim 13 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner has rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Papadopoulos (U.S. Patent 5,602,836).

The Examiner states that Papadopoulos discloses all of the elements recited in Claim 12. Applicants respectfully disagree. While Papadopoulos deals with transmitting voice packet data, nowhere in Papadopoulos is there disclosed *assigning* a packet voice channel, *releasing* the assigned packet voice channel, and *re-assigning* the packet voice channel as recited in Claim 12. The assigning-releasing-reassigning of the channel based on the existence or non-existence of voice data as recited in Claim 12 distinguishes the claim from the cited reference. Based on at least the foregoing argument, withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 12 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claim 13, these are likewise believed to be allowable by virtue of their dependence on their respective independent claims. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of dependent Claim 13 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-20, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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